

Chapter 5.24**DANCE HALLS AND PUBLIC DANCES****Sections:**

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Section 5.24.010 Definitions.

For the purposes of this chapter, the following phrases shall have the meaning respectively ascribed to them by this section:

"Public dance" means a dance which is or may be participated in by and of the members of a group or gathering of persons who are assembled or present at a place to which the public is admitted, with or without charge, for the principal or incidental purpose of dancing;

"Public dance hall" means any room, place or premises, whether enclosed or unenclosed, where a public dance is being conducted or permitted. (Prior code § 11.1)

Section 5.24.020 Dances excepted from provisions of chapter.

The following designated dances are excepted from the provisions of this chapter:

- A. Any dance conducted by the City as a part of its recreation program;
- B. Any dance conducted by any public school or private school which is permanently located within the City, as a part of the recreation program of the school for the exclusive entertainment of its duly registered pupils. (Prior code § 11.2)

Section 5.24.030 License tax payment required.

No person shall conduct a public dance or operate a public dance hall without first having paid the license tax required by the City in Chapter 5.04. (Prior code § 11.3)

Section 5.24.040 Permit required.

No person shall conduct a public dance or operate a public dance hall without first having secured a permit from the Chief of Police. (Prior code § 11.4)

Section 5.24.050 Application for permit--Fee to accompany.

All applications for permits shall be accompanied by a filing fee of two dollars, shall be in writing and shall be filed with the Chief of Police and shall contain such information as will enable the Chief by reasonable investigation to determine whether the allowing or permitting of dancing or the offering of entertainment in the place for which such permit is sought will be inimical to the public health, welfare or safety of the community. (Prior code § 11.5)

Section 5.24.060 Issuance of permit.

If the Chief of Police finds that the issuing of a permit will not be inimical to the public health, welfare or safety of the community he shall issue a permit subject to such rules and regulations as he may make governing the operation of the public dance hall. (Prior code § 11.6)

Section 5.24.070 Revocation of permit.

Any permit issued for any public dance hall as provided in Section 5.24.060, is subject to revocation if the proprietor or person in charge violates or permits or condones any violation of this chapter or permits any intoxicated, boisterous or disorderly person to enter, be or remain in or to assist in any such public dance hall. (Prior code § 11.7)

Section 5.24.080 Chief of Police to make rules.

The Chief of Police may make rules governing the conduct of public dances and the operation of public dance halls. (Prior code § 11.8)

Section 5.24.090 Lighting or illumination regulations.

No person carrying on a public dance hall, or having charge or control thereof, nor any person employed in or about the same shall carry on a public dance hall after sunset of any day, unless the room or hall in which dancing takes place, including any loge, booth or alcove, be lighted or illuminated in the manner and to the extent as is usual or customary for lighting or illuminating halls or rooms of like dimensions in the nighttime for public assemblies, before any person is admitted thereto and before any dancing is commenced therein. Lighting or illumination shall be maintained thereafter throughout the entire time while dancing is in progress without diminution and without interruption until dancing is concluded and until all dancers leave the premises. (Prior code § 11.9)

Section 5.24.100 Enclosures prohibited--Exceptions.

There shall be no booths, alcoves or enclosures of any kind in a public dance hall, except toilet facilities and except office rooms to which patrons shall not have access. (Prior code § 11.10)

Section 5.24.110 Fully lighted room for soft drink service.

A public dance hall that maintains soft drink service shall be permitted to have tables and chairs for the convenience of patrons; provided, that the tables and chairs are in a fully lighted room and not shut off from the main dance hall by doors, curtains or any partition other than clear glass. (Prior code § 11.11)

Section 5.24.120 Size of room for soft drink service.

Any room used for soft drink service in connection with a public dance hall must be large enough to accommodate no fewer than twelve persons. (Prior code § 11.12)

Section 5.24.130 Disorderly conduct.

No person in charge of, or assisting in the conduct of any public dance hall, shall permit any intoxicated, boisterous or disorderly person to enter, be or remain in or to assist in any such public dance hall. No person in an intoxicated condition shall enter or remain in any dance hall. No person shall conduct himself in a boisterous or disorderly manner in a public dance hall. (Prior code § 11.13)

Section 5.24.140 Improper dancing prohibited.

No person shall dance in a lewd, suggestive or unusual manner, nor shall any lewd or improper person enter or remain in, or be permitted to enter or remain in any public dance hall. (Prior code § 11.14)

Section 5.24.150 Smoking on dance floor prohibited.

No person shall smoke on the dance floor of any public dance hall. (Prior code § 11.15)

Section 5.24.160 Patrons violating rules to be excluded by management or police.

Any patron of a dance hall who violates any of the provisions of this chapter or any rules of the Chief of Police pertaining thereto may be excluded from the dance hall by the management or by any member of the Police Department. (Prior code § 11.16)

Section 5.24.190 Dancing for hire prohibited.

No person carrying on a public dance hall, or having charge or control thereof, shall permit any female person to dance for hire with a male person. (Prior code § 11.19)

Section 5.24.200 Where dancing instruction permitted.

No person carrying on a public dance hall, or having charge or control thereof, shall employ or permit any female person under the age of twenty-one years to give instruction in dancing to male persons, nor shall any person, male or female, give instruction in dancing in any public dance hall to a person of the opposite sex except when such instructors are specifically authorized by the Chief of Police in writing to give dancing instruction. Any such authorization shall at once be revoked if it shall become evident that the person is dancing for hire and is not a bona fide dancing instructor. (Prior code § 11.20)

Section 5.24.210 Dancing instruction prohibited in private rooms.

No person carrying on a public dance hall, or having charge or control thereof, shall permit any instructor to give instructions in dancing in any private room or booth in the public dance hall. For the purpose of this section "private room or booth" includes any room, booth, alcove or enclosure, every part of which is not clearly visible at all times from the main dance

floor. (Prior code § 11.21)

Section 5.24.220 Prohibition of dancing instruction not applicable to places where classic dancing taught.

Nothing contained in Sections 5.24.190 through 5.24.210 shall be deemed or construed as applying to any place where classic dancing is the principal subject taught. (Prior code § 11.22)

Section 5.24.230 Proprietor responsible although police present.

The presence of any policeman at any public dance hall shall not relieve the proprietor, or any of his employees, from the responsibility of the provisions of this chapter or for violations of any law or ordinance or lawful rule of the Chief of Police or from responsibility for maintaining decency and order in the public dance hall. (Prior code § 11.23)

Section 5.24.240 "Set-ups" prohibited.

No person carrying on a public dance hall, or having charge or control thereof, shall serve or permit to be served any drinks other than individual drinks, or to serve or permit to be served cracked ice in glasses or otherwise, or serve or permit to be served what is commonly termed a "set-up." (Prior code § 11.24)

Section 5.24.260 Morning dancing.

No person under the age of eighteen years shall enter, be in or dance in any public hall on any day between the hours of two a.m. and six a.m. (Ord. 3807 § 1, 1971; prior code § 11.26)